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January 16, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
ON THE
ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT NAME : Thissell Marsh Restoration Project
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Hale Street - Beverly
PROJECT WATERSHED : North Coastal
EOEA NUMBER : 14140
PROJECT PROPONENT : Endicott College
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : **December 10, 2007**

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) and Section 11.06 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I hereby determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The proponent requested a Full Waiver from its mandatory EIR review threshold. The Certificate on the ENF is contingent upon the granting of a Full Waiver in the Final Record of Decision (FROD). If a Full Waiver is not granted in the FROD, then the Secretary will reissue the Certificate on the ENF with an EIR scope.

According to the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the proposed project consists of the restoration of a culverted tidal creek, Centerville Brook, and degraded and filled coastal wetlands within Thissell Marsh. The project includes replacing the existing culvert with a new 5x5-foot box culvert through the dune behind Patch Beach and removing and/or abandoning the remaining culvert sections. The proponent will construct a new naturalized creek system similar to historical conditions. It will regrade portions of the existing 2.1 acre marsh to control the recolonization of Phragmites. The proponent would remove the fill associated with the existing tennis courts (one acre). This work would expand the total inter-tidal wetland area to 4.1 acres. The project also includes a 70-foot timber walkway over the marsh in an area that is used by the proponent to access the beach. The area of the project is 4.7 acres.

The project requires a mandatory EIR pursuant to Sections 11.03(3)(a)(1)(a) of the MEPA regulations because it alters one or more acres of Salt Marsh or Bordering Vegetated Wetlands

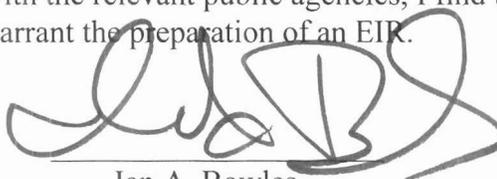
(BVW). It will require a Section 401 Water Quality Certificate and a Chapter 91 Waterways License from the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The project may require a Section 10 Permit and a Section 404 Authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It may need to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for stormwater discharges from a construction site. A Federal Consistency Review by the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (MCZM) office may also be necessary. The project will require an Order of Conditions from the Beverly Conservation Commission for impacts to wetland resource areas (salt marsh restoration) as a potentially "limited" project. Because some Commonwealth funds will be utilized on this project, MEPA jurisdiction extends to all aspects of the project that may have significant environmental impacts.

According to the supplemental information supplied by the proponent on January 7th and 14th, the project will impact the following wetland resource areas: 49,695 sf of Salt Marsh; 7,890 sf of Coastal Beach; 16,270 sf of Coastal Dune; 24,160 sf of Barrier Beach; 24,050 sf of Coastal Bank; 850 linear feet of Bank; 19,450 sf of BVW; and 3,400 sf of Land under Water. Approximately 106,000 sf of new Riverfront Area are created by the project. The Salt Marsh area includes 43,075 sf of temporary impacts and 6,620 sf of permanent impacts. The total Salt Marsh area following restoration is approximately 178,600 sf. The net gain in Salt Marsh area is approximately 71,550 sf. The Thissell Marsh area will be excavated of approximately 690 cubic yards for creek naturalization within Salt Marsh.

In the southeast area of the project, the proponent will evaluate the potential of removing only those portions of the drainage pipes and structure which are in failed condition or within the limits of the proposed Salt Marsh restoration. The remaining portion of the drainage pipes would be filled with flowage fill to eliminate voids that may cause settlement problems and the ends would be plugged.

Based on a review of the information provided by the proponent, a review of the comment letters, and after consultation with the relevant public agencies, I find that the potential impacts of this project do not warrant the preparation of an EIR.

January 16, 2007
Date



Ian A. Bowles

Comments received:

MCZM, 12/11/07

MHC, 12/11/07

Louis Berger Group, 12/12/07

EEA #14140

ENF Certificate

January 16, 2008

MCZM, 12/17/07

Louis Berger Group, 12/27/07

Beverly Conservation Commission, 1/7/08

Louis Berger Group, 1/7/08

Wetlands & Land Management, 1/8/08

MassDEP/NERO, 1/9/08

Louis Berger Group, 1/9/08

Mass Audubon, 1/9/08

Salem Sound Coastwatch, 1/9/08

Louis Berger Group, 1/14/08

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IAB/WTG/wg
